

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2013

Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
Room: 8-B201
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We are writing to encourage the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to expand broadband access to unserved residences in Colorado by expeditiously distributing the Connect America Fund Phase 1 (CAF1) funds as well as completing the final rules for the Remote Areas Fund (RAF) in 2013.

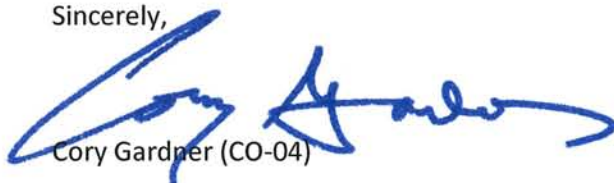
In November 2011, the Federal Communications Commission formed CAF1 and RAF through changes in the Universal Service Fund (USF). CAF1 was designed to bring rapid broadband expansion to rural areas without broadband, and RAF was designed to deploy broadband in areas where the cost to build is extremely high. Many rural areas of our state and our districts are waiting for broadband to connect their homes and their businesses to the rest of the world. Both CAF1 and RAF would help achieve this end.

According to the FCC, there are over 18 million people in the United States that live without broadband services – many of which live in Colorado in price capped providers service territories. However, with regard to CAF in particular, much of the capital set aside for broadband deployment is sitting on the sidelines. If CAF1 funds are not distributed in a timely manner, these areas will be at an economic disadvantage to the rest of the United States.

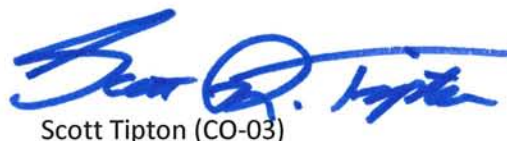
Additionally, we urge the FCC to move forward with completion of the RAF on a technology neutral basis as soon as it finishes its current round of comments. Consumers in the most remote areas of Colorado should not have to wait any longer for broadband.

Broadband deployment is an economic driver that provides rural Americans access to education opportunities, remote healthcare applications, and high-speed wireless service. It is essential in our agricultural markets, for emerging small businesses, and for consumer access to online retailers. We urge the FCC to act expediently in releasing CAF1 funds, complete the RAF rules, and fulfill its promise to rural America.

Sincerely,



Cory Gardner (CO-04)



Scott Tipton (CO-03)



Federal Communications Commission
Office of Legislative Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20554

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Cory Gardner
U.S. House of Representatives
213 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gardner:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the Commission's *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in its Universal Service Connect America Fund (CAF) proceeding. The Commission is dedicated to distributing all CAF funds in the most effective manner to preserve and advance voice and broadband service, including accelerating the deployment of modern communications networks to consumers who lack access to robust broadband. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs



**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Legislative Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Scott Tipton
U.S. House of Representatives
218 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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